

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors

OF THE

Lydd Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present this, my first Annual Report upon the Sanitary Condition of this Borough, during the year ending December 31st, 1898.

STATISTICS.

DEATHS.—There have been registered as occurring in Lydd, a total of 33 deaths. Included in this number is 5, being bodies which were washed ashore, thus making a corrected total of **28**.

14 deaths occurring amongst males.

14 „ „ „ females.

This is equal to a Mean Annual Death Rate of 12·44 per 1,000, which compares most favourably with that for the Rural Population of England and Wales for the same period, viz. : 17·6.

It is a source of great satisfaction that I am able to present my first Report free from any deaths from Zymotic Disease.

Of the 28 deaths—

4 occurred under 5 years of age.

12 „ at 65 years of age and over.

Viz. : 65, 66, 68, 74, 74, 77, 77, 80, 81, 83, 86, 87.

5 between 60 and 70 years of age.

4 „ 70 and 80 „ „

5 „ 80 and 90 „ „

Thus exactly one half of the Mortality was of persons between 60 and 90 years of age.

BIRTHS.—The Births during 1898 numbered 59, showing a Birth rate of 26·22 per 1,000, of which number 31 were males, and 28 females.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales during the same period was 29·4 per 1,000.

With regard to diseases of a notifiable character, there has been but one case notified, that being a case of Scarlet Fever occurring in January last.

The erection of a Steam Disinfector has been completed during the past year, and has been successfully used upon one occasion, in the case of Typhoid Fever occurring in a Sergeant at the Camp.

In July last, I was requested to inspect the Dairies and Cowsheds of the Borough, and presented a Report to the Board, on August 4th, suggesting Sanitary improvements. These suggestions have been willingly complied with.

I think, however, a more thorough Registration under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops' Order, 1885, should be enforced. Of the 16 Dairies situated in the Borough, only one half are registered. Further, the sanitary condition of the Dairies has so important a bearing upon the health of the Borough, that a regular system of visitation should be carried out.

The Sanitary Inspector has rendered me every assistance in carrying out the duties of my office, and has kept me constantly informed of the Nuisances which have been brought to his notice.

The following notices have been served for the abatement of Nuisances :—

Written Notice to remove Piggeries	1
„ „ improve Sanitary Condition of Cowsheds			1
„ „ clean Ashpit	1
„ „ empty Closet	1
„ „ abate nuisance arising from S.S. "Noel"			

All the Notices have been complied with without resource to legal process.

In Conclusion—Bearing in mind the long period of drought existing from June till October, the Health of the Borough—as shown, both by the low Death Rate, and the entire absence of Zymotic Disease after January—is in a highly satisfactory condition.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HERBERT S. OLIVER,

Medical Officer of Health to the Borough of Lydd.

March 2nd, 1899.

